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RPF

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Cease-Fire

It is imperative that there be an immediate cease-fire. The international community is overwhelmed by the influx of refugees fleeing the RPF advance. The fighting must stop now or else Rwanda and the region will face a humanitarian disaster of unprecedented proportions.

We are disturbed by the RPF's growing list of preconditions to a cease-fire. There can be no justification for continued fighting in the face of humanitarian crisis of this magnitude.

We do not think you should reject out of hand the feelers sent out by members of the interim government's forces. The RPF must be willing to talk to the other side at some level to arrange for a halt to the fighting.

Operation Turquoise/UNAMIR

We welcome the dialogue you have had with the French. We urge you to cooperate with the French-led operation, which is providing important protection to civilian populations at risk and facilitating humanitarian relief efforts.

We understand the RPF has reservations about agreeing to participation in UNAMIR by the Senegalese and possibly other francophone contingents. We believe the Senegalese are competent, experienced peacekeepers who are the most readily available contingent to complement the Ghanaians in replacing the temporary French-led operation. UNAMIR can most rapidly accelerate its deployment if you would accept a Senegalese component to that deployment.

New Government

We continue to believe that the Arusha framework offers the best solution to Rwanda's crisis. The Arusha principles of genuine powersharing should be respected in any new government.

It is crucial that Rwandans have a broadly based representative government that comes into being through serious dialogue among the relevant political forces and not through military conquest.

Accountability

We are calling for an acceleration of the work of the special rapporteur and of the recently approved UN Commission of Experts. We are in the process of collecting information for use by the Commission.

We strongly support international accountability for those responsible for genocide and other crimes against humanitarian law.

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